

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for ensuring minimal error in weighing devices, comprising:

- 5           a) setting said weighing device at a zero point;  
          b) successively placing one or more standard test loads on said weighing device at a plurality of distinct testing positions located in about a peripheral two-thirds of a weight-receiving surface of said weighing device, said loads being measured by said weighing device at  
10 discrete instances such that said testing positions are utilized individually to measure a selected load;

          c) determining weight error displayed by said weighing device at each of said testing positions;

- 15           d) summing said distinct measured weight errors into a summed error; and

          e) comparing said summed error to a desired tolerance level, such that weighing devices exhibiting summed errors in excess of said tolerance level may be  
20 identified as being in need of corrective action, including calibration.

2. A method as in Claim 1 wherein said testing positions are substantially equidistant from one another, and distributed substantially evenly about said weight-receiving surface.  
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3. A method as in Claim 1 wherein a common said selected test load is utilized at each of said testing positions.

4. A method as in Claim 3 wherein said selected test  
30 load is one-fourth to one-half of the designated weight capacity of said weighing device.

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6. A method as in Claim 1 wherein said standard test  
5 loads are successively placed at at least four of said  
distinct testing positions.

8. A method as in Claim 1 wherein said tolerance level is one-half of a standard maintenance tolerance.

10. A method as in Claim 1 wherein said weighing device is a Class III scale.

20                   a)    leveling said weighing device with leveling  
                  means;

c) visually inspecting or passing a thin tool  
25 between said weight-receiving surface and a housing of said  
weighing device to ensure that said weighing device is free  
from obstructions which could impede its operational  
functions; and

d) repairing or replacing broken or missing  
30 elements of said weighing device.

Variable	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Age	38.5	12.5	25	65
Gender	Male	Female		
Marital Status	Married	Single		
Education	High School	College		
Occupation	Manager	Worker		
Income	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$50,000
Health Status	Good	Fair	Poor	
Exercise Frequency	Weekly	Monthly	Never	
Stress Level	Low	Medium	High	
Sleep Quality	Good	Fair	Poor	
Dietary Habits	Healthy	Unhealthy		
Alcohol Consumption	Occasional	Frequent		
Tobacco Use	Non-user	User		
Family Size	2	3	1	4
Home Ownership	Owner	Renter		
Commute Time	30 min	45 min	15 min	60 min
Work Hours	40 hrs/week	50 hrs/week	30 hrs/week	60 hrs/week
Job Satisfaction	High	Low		
Life Satisfaction	High	Low		
Overall Health Score	75	10	50	100

12. A method as in Claim 1 wherein said calibration includes utilizing a 2000 division weight range to obtain a desired tolerance level.

13. A method for minimizing error in weighing devices,  
5 comprising:

a) setting said weighing device at a zero point;

b) successively placing one or more standard  
test loads on said weighing device at a plurality of  
distinct testing positions located in about a peripheral  
two-thirds of a weight-receiving surface of said weighing  
device, said loads being measured by said weighing device at  
discrete instances such that said testing positions are  
utilized individually to measure a selected load;

c) determining a measurement error displayed by  
15 said weighing device at each of said testing positions;

d) comparing said measurement error to a desired  
tolerance level, such that weighing devices exhibiting  
measurement errors in excess of said tolerance level undergo  
one or more corrective actions, said corrective actions  
20 being selected from one or more of the group consisting of:

i) leveling said weighing device with  
leveling means;

ii) cleaning said weighing device,  
particularly under said weight-receiving surface of said  
weighing device;  
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iii) visually inspecting or passing a thin  
tool between said weight-receiving surface, and a housing of  
said weighing device to ensure that said weighing device is  
free from obstructions which could impede its operational  
30 functions; and

iv) repairing or replacing broken or missing  
elements of said weighing device.

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14. A method as in Claim 13 wherein said testing positions are substantially equidistant from one another, and distributed substantially evenly about said weight-receiving surface.

- 5        15. A method as in Claim 13 wherein said selected test load is one-fourth to one-half of the designated weight capacity of said weighing device.

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